Sorekara, Kimi wo Kangaeru

Komatsu

Chapter 4

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それから、君を考える
Then I Think of You

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Must Be Endless

Must Be Endless

Fujoshi Bitches

It's Darkest Before the Dawn

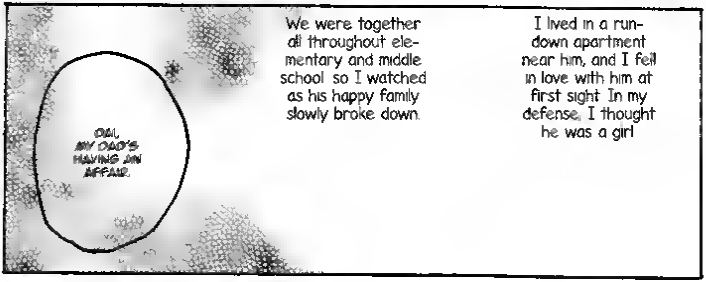
1.08
It's no good.
My parents are going to get a divorce.
I'M LEAVING
DAISUKE?
HEY DAISUKE,

KANAME-
CHAN!

huff
huff
YOU'RE LATE, DAD.

PLEASE!
LISTEN!
TAKE ME AWAY FROM HERE!
HUH? BUT
OH! TAKE ME SOME-WHERE
WHAT DID YOU MEAN... BY DIVORCE?
Ever since he was little... Kaname-chan was a good kid who always cared for his family

A bright, cute sister
A kind, pretty mother who's a good cook
A brilliant father who works at a big company


OMG, MY DAD'S HAVING AN AFFAIR.
We were together all throughout elementary and middle school so I watched as his happy family slowly broke down.
I lived in a run-down apartment near him, and I fell in love with him at first sight. In my defense, I thought he was a girl.

MY DAD HASN'T BEEN COMING HOME RECENTLY

I GET SCARED WHEN I THINK THAT IT'S ONLY NATURAL MY DAD DOESN'T EVER COME BACK
BUT NOW SHE'S ACTING AS IF IT'S BETTER NEATER, IF HE DOESN'T COME EVER
MY MOM USED TO CRY ABOUT IT,
I DID EVERYTHING I COULD TO KEEP THIS FAMILY TO-GETHER SOMEHOW...
BUT IT WAS NO USE

Kaname-chan said he wanted to be someone else

But I didn't want him to become anyone else

WOW...
HERE, THIS ROOM IS EMPTY, SO YOU CAN STAY HERE UNTIL YOU FEEL BETTER
I GUESS IT HAS WEIRD THINGS TOO, THOUGH.
LOVE HOTELS ARE MORE NORMAL-LOOKING THAN I THOUGHT

SHUT UP!
IT IS A HOTEL WHERE YOU DO WEIRD THINGS, BUT DON'T DO ANYTHING CRAZY!
SORRY ABOUT THIS
IT'S OKAY
UHM...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH
IS IT REALLY OKAY?
IT'S FINE, IT'S FINE.
THEIR FAMILY OWNS A BUNCH OF OTHER HOTELS, TOO
WE HANG OUT HERE ALL THE TIME WITH PLAYSTATIONS AND STUFF.
HUH...
AREN'T YOU TIRED?
LET'S CALL IT A DAY AND THINK ABOUT THINGS TOMORROW
...OKAY

YOUR DAD IS HAVING AN AFFAIR
KANAME, YOU TAKE AFTER ME. YOU'RE BRILLIANT. YOU'RE MY PRIDE.
I have to be good.
KANAME,
DON'T GROW UP LIKE HIM.
IF YOU KEEP BEING A GOOD STUDENT, OUR PARENTS WILL BOTH BE SATISFIED, SO IT'S FINE, RIGHT?

I FEEL CALMEST WHEN I'M AT HOME WITH YOU, KANAME.
MASA HASN'T BEEN COMING HOME RECENTLY.
NEITHER MASA NOR RYOKO GREETS ME WHEN I COME HOME.
I have to be a good boy.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING SPEAKING TO HIM? HE'S A DIRTY CHEATER.
I have to be good.
PRETENDING TO BE A FAMILY IS SO TEDIOUS. I WISH THEY'D DIE ALREADY.
I have to be good.
I have to be good.
KANAME-CHAN.

LET'S GO TO THE BEACH!
ARE YOU STILL BROODING?

DAISUKE
HUH?
DID HE JUST SAY MY NAME?
WOW YOU RE SAYING MY NAME IN YOUR SLEEP?
THIS IS BAD
I WONDER IF HIS FAMILY IS GOING TO BE OKAY ?

AH, HELLO?
LONG TIME NO TALK IT'S DAISUKE
YES I'M WITH KANAME-CHAN NOW
HE'S REALLY SHOCKED IT'S HARD TO WATCH
HE STILL HASN'T SORTED OUT HIS FEELINGS YET, SO PLEASE LET HIM BE FOR A WHILE
I'M WITH HIM SO I WON'T LET HIM DO ANYTHING DANGEROUS
KANAME-CHAN'S MOM SHE WAS CRYING HUH ?
Missed Call
Masa
080 XXXX XXXX
I haven't told Kaname-chan about this, but when I was a freshman in high school, Masa confessed her feelings to me.
HUH? THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE
YOU'RE LIKE A SISTER TO ME, MASA...

Plip
OH SHIT
I think the reason Masa strayed off the path is a little bit because of me
AH BUT THERE'S REALLY NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT THIS KIND OF SITUATION

AH, YEAH HE'S WITH ME RIGHT NOW
DO YOU KNOW WHERE ONII-SAN IS?!
DAI-CHAN!
AH, MASA
IT'S GOING TO BE AWKWARD BUT SHE'S PROBABLY WORRIED SO I SHOULD JUST CALL HER

THANK GOOD-NESS

maybe you don't understand right now
but your family doesn't hate you. They don't think of you as unimportant
ARE YOU OKAY, MASA?
AH... DAI-CHAN...
Kaname-chan,

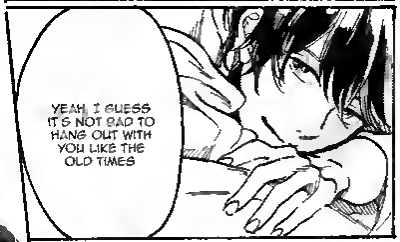
all being a little selfish
But your family's
You're the only one who's not being selfish, so it burned you out
I think it's okay for you to be a little more re-bellious

WHY IS HE STICKING TO ME?
Mom (2)
Cell
Today
Masa (4)
Cell
Yesterday
Dad (3)
Cell
Yesterday
Mom (6)
Cell
NOW, WHAT SHOULD I DO?
SHOULD I GO TO SCHOOL? OR GO BACK HOME?
I DON'T WANT TO GO HOME YET

From then on,

we were together every day and hung out.

WELL, HE SAID IT'S OKAY TO STAY HERE AS LONG AS WE WANT.
WHY DON'T YOU TAKE IT EASY UNTIL YOU FEEL BETTER, KANAME-CHAN?
I'M HERE AND ALL, TOO.



Like we're children, spending happy times together
We do the same things together, and we laugh at the same stupid things at the same time.
Kaname-chan, no matter what we did, easily laughed
BUT...
THIS
As if it's bad if he doesn't laugh...
MAYBE HE'S NOT LAUGHING BECAUSE HE WANTS TO

Kaname-chan is in pain
while smiling beside me,
he's hurting even now...
IT HURTS ME
IT HURTS ME TO SEE HIM SMILE WHILE HE'S IN PAIN

I mean for real!
How could a forty-year-old man fall for a 20-year-old and be serious about her?
Is he stupid or something?!
Don't you think so?!
YES, I DO.
That stupid, perverted, old man father!
Youth is fleeting, doesn't he know?!
HAHA
She was hysterically angry every day!
Of course dad didn't want to come back home!
And mom, too! It's dad's fault for having an affair, but...

AND MASA IS OUT EVERY NIGHT, AND WHEN SHE COMES BACK SHE PICKS A FIGHT WITH THEM...
WHATEVER SHE'S THINKING, WHATEVER SHE'D LIKE TO SAY! IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT SPITTING IT ALL OUT!
EVEN I HAVE A TON OF STUFF THAT I'D LIKE TO SAY TO MY PARENTS
BUT I'M HOLDING IT IN!
crinkle
EVEN I.
EVEN I...
I HAVE TONS OF THINGS I'D LIKE TO COMPLAIN TO MY PARENTS ABOUT...

EVERYBODY'S SO SELFISH
I WISH THEY'D DIE
there's nothing I can do about it
even though this is making you so sad
Kaname-chan,

I'M POWERLESS.
EVEN AFTER THIS, I'M GOING TO HAVE TO FACE THIS KIND OF POWER-LESSNESS AGAIN AND AGAIN.

...YUCK.
IS SEX SOMETHING THAT MAKES YOU LOSE YOUR HEAD?
IS IT JUST BECAUSE I'M INEXPERIENCED OR WHAT?
WHAT IS IT?
IS IT SOMETHING TO THROW AWAY YOUR FAMILY FOR?
DAI
HUH?

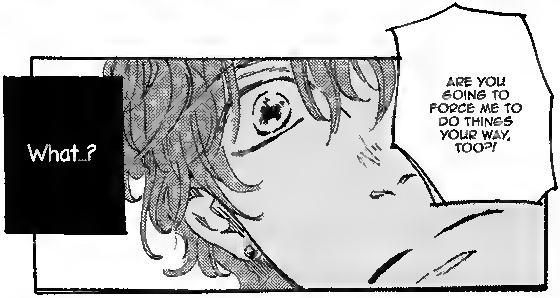
DOES SEX FEEL GOOD?
IF I...
...were the main character in a hentai manga...
It does. I'll teach you...
AH...
NO WAY
WELL... IT DOES I GUESS?
I HAVE SOME FRIENDS WHO SAY THEY PREFER MAS-TURRATING THOUGH
VRR VRR VRR
Masa
Call
ACCEPT
DECLINE
SORRY I'M GONNA TAKE THIS CALL

DAI-CHAN, PLEASE BRING ONII-CHAN BACK.
WELL...
IT'S
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M HOLDING HIM HERE AGAINST HIS WILL. AND IT'S KANAME-CHAN'S CHOICE TO NOT GO BACK.
THEN PLEASE GIVE THE PHONE TO ONII-CHAN.
MOM WANTS TO SPEAK TO HIM.
IT'S COWARDLY TO SAY TO HIM WHAT SHE WANTS...
...WHEN SHE DOESN'T LISTEN TO WHAT KANAME-CHAN HAS TO SAY.
MAYBE IT SOUNDS LIKE COWARDICE TO YOU, DAI-CHAN...
BUT...
MOM LOOKS SO SAD THAT I CAN'T STAND IT.

UGH!
BUT IT'S NO USE IF IT'S ME!
SOB
WHY DON'T YOU SUPPORT HER, MASA?
C'D
AHH... ORA-SAN IS IN A TIGHT SPOT TOO, I GUESS
WITH THE DIVORCE AND HER SON RUNNING AWAY FROM HOME
YOU IGNORED ALL OF THOSE INCONVENIENT THINGS, AND YOU DID AS YOU PLEASED, DIDN'T YOU?
I'M NOT A GOOD KID LIKE ONII-CHAN.
THERE ARE THINGS THAT ONLY YOU COULD'VE DONE, BUT KANAME-CHAN TRIED TO SUPPORT ORA-CHAN IN THOSE SITUATIONS, TOO.
But it's true that nothing can change while we're at an impasse like this. Is there a way for Kaname-chan to get better in this situation?
YOU HOMO! DIE!
D
Wow, sure is lively
OH, SHE'S SHARP
AH
KANAME-CHAN

IT'S TRUE.
YOU'RE SO CUTE!
THEN COME HOME WITH ME
DID YOU MAKE HIM DRINK SOMETHING WEIRD?
HUUUH? HOW RUDE!
KANAME-CHAN, LET'S GO BACK
NO.
HUH?
Huh? What is this?
KANAME-CHAN
AH, DAI
YOUR FRIEND?

I'LL STAY WITH ONEE-SAN FOR TONIGHT
RIIIGHT!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
THAT'S NOT FUNNY
GRAB
LET'S GO
I SAID NO!


What...?
ARE YOU GOING TO FORCE ME TO DO THINGS YOUR WAY, TOO?!

What are you saying, Kaname-chan?
Why are you looking at me like that?

Am I holding you back, too?
The more I drink, the more it clears my head.
CRUNCH
TSK!
SWIG
I'm so irritated, I can't sleep.
22:27
10:30
I'm always thinking of Kaname-chan.

What is he doing with that woman right this moment?
AH STOP STOP
Even if I'm jealous or in pain because of Kaname-chan,
I'M GONNA GO CRAZY WITH JEALOUSY

he doesn't think of me, anyway
1:00 A.M...
DO I WONDER IF HE'S SLEEPING
CREAK
WELCOME BACK
YOU REEK OF ALCOHOL
DID YOU DO IT WITH THAT WOMAN?
WHAT WERE YOU DOING UNTIL NOW?

throb
The results of all my help...
Drink-ing
Smoking
Sex
throb
WHY DID IT COME TO THIS?
WHAT? WAIT, WAIT.
throb
throb
Because it was hard to watch Kaname-chan be hurt.
because I wanted to save him even a little bit...
I DID

WHAT AM I DOING?
HAHA, YOU WANT TO HEAR MY IMPRES-SIONS?
I SAID, HOW WAS IT?
HMM...
HOW WAS IT? YOUR FIRST TIME.
The thing I had always held precious...
IT WASN'T MUCH TO IT
IT MADE ME THINK THAT A MAN WHO GETS SUCKED INTO IT IS AN IDIOT

thump
UGH
PULL
!
It was given to some random woman
Tch.
I should've taken it instead!

WAIT!
WHAT...?
OF COURSE IT WASN'T ANYTHING SPECIAL, KANAME-CHAN
SINCE YOU DID IT WITH SOME RANDOM PERSON
WHY DON'T YOU TRY IT OUT WITH SOMEONE YOU KNOW BETTER?
WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE TOUCH-ING...?
FOR EXAMPLE,
ME.

blush
YOU'RE TOUCHING ME.
DO YOU HATE ME?
THERE'S NO WAY I COULD HATE YOU!
A trick question.
THEN DO YOU LOVE ME?
...YES!
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE I LOVE
If I can have you, I don't care how
YOU WANT TO FEEL WHAT YOUR DAD FELT.
ISN'T THAT RIGHT?

HOW DID YOU DO IT WITH THAT WOMAN? TELL ME
DAL
THIS...
NH...
Ah
AH
HIS TONGUE IS SOFT
HAA I CAN'T STOP
Kiss
Kiss
Ha
Haa
DID SHE TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTHES?

startle
DID SHE SUCK YOU LIKE THIS?
AH, WAIT!
I CAN'T DO IT AFTER ALL!
YOU DOING THIS TO ME ALL OF A SUDDEN I CAN'T THINK STRAIGHT!
HAHA, KANAME-CHAN YOU GO IN END-LESS CIRCLES WHEN YOU THINK SO DON'T THINK
BUT-
NO
DAISUKE, STOP
I DON'T WANT TO
I WON'T.

Kaname-chan...
UGH...
Haa
Ha
NO,
DAISUKE!
He'll never...
...become mine.

YOU REALLY DON'T WANT TO DO IT WITH ME? THAT MUCH?
NOD NOD
NO MATTER WHAT?
I'M SORRY.
I THOUGHT MAYBE A GUY WILL DO
I DIDN'T JERK OFF FOR A WEEK, SO I WAS ALL PENT UP.
SHFF
WOOM

I'M SORRY
I WAS JUST KIDDING AROUND
AHH
whap
OW!
whap
THAT HURTS!
pwomf
OUCH!
...

I've been holding in these words for so long
Why?
I'M SORRY
I LOVE YOU, KANAME-CHAN
I'M SORRY
Why am I saying them so coldly...
...without even looking at his face?
GRAB

I WAS ABLE TO DO IT BECAUSE IT WAS SOME RANDOM WOMAN
WITH YOU, IT'S
IMPOSSIBLE

WHAT DID YOU MEAN I'M THE ONLY ONE YOU LOVE?
KANAME-CHAN EARLIER
My voice is trembling so much that it's pathetic.
TELL ME, KANAME-CHAN
HOW... IN WHAT WAY DO YOU LOVE ME?
When I said those words, I felt as if I were going to cry.

YOU'RE TOO TENACIOUS!
YOU,
YOU'RE...
NNG...
CREAK
SORRY,
IT JUST FELT TOO GOOD
SPEAKING OF,
FACE THIS WAY, KANAME-CHAN
NO!
N
Ha
Ha
Ha
DOES IT HURT?
IT DOES.
SO COME ALREADY

KANAME-CHAN, I'M GONNA...
WAIT, WAIT,
Grasp
AHH
AHHH, WAIT!
twitch
SORRY
I'M COMING
GRAB
KANAME-CHAN
Ha
Ha
Ha
Ha
Ha
KANAME-CHAN!

KANAME-CHAN,
DO YOU STILL NOT FORGIVE YOUR FAMILY?
I THOUGHT YOU WERE A GIRL
YOU KNOW WHEN I FIRST MET YOU,
I EVEN THOUGHT I WANTED TO MARRY YOU IN THE FUTURE
I LOVED YOU SO MUCH
AND I LOVED YOU
YOU WERE SO CUTE

IT WAS SUCH A SHOCK WHEN I TOOK A BATH WITH YOU FOR THE FIRST TIME
HAHA
I'M SORRY I WAS A BOY
HMM
WELL, I WAS SAD FOR A WHILE,
BUT THERE ARE SOME THINGS THAT CAN'T BE CHANGED, NO MATTER WHAT

There are many things I cannot accept
We drink in absurd, unreasonable things from the world.
Even if we try our best, we're barely getting by

...can't always go the way we want
Our lives...

I UNDERSTAND NOT WANTING TO ACCEPT THAT AND WANTING TO RUN AWAY

I THINK LIFE WON'T ALWAYS GO THE WAY YOU WANT KANAME-CHAN

BUT INSTEAD OF RUNNING AWAY WHY DON'T WE DO OUR BEST TOGETHER?
WHEN YOU'RE HURTING OR WORN OUT, I'LL BE BY YOUR SIDE. HMM?
HNG...
UGH
UGH
There's nothing we can do about these feelings...
in this long night of our youth

We'll experience this powerlessness countless times from now on,
and become adults little by little
Because it's the darkest before the dawn.

DAI.
KANAME-CHAN
GOOD MORNING...
I'M GOING HOME
HOME?
THEN I'LL COME WITH YOU
YEAH
OKAY
LET'S GO BACK TOGETHER

KA-TAK
KA-TAK
RATTLE
RATTLE
DAI, DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN YOU TOOK ME TO THE BEACH DURING MIDDLE SCHOOL?
AND YOU YOU SAID, "THE MOST PAINFUL MOMENTS IN LIFE ARE WHEN YOU CAN GROW THE MOST"
I WAS OVERWHELMED BY MY FAMILY STUFF AND SCHOOL STUFF
WHEN I'M REALLY SUFFERING, I THINK OF IT AS A CHANCE TO LEVEL UP
A CHANCE TO LEVEL UP?
YEAH. IN ORDER TO FREE YOURSELF OF A PAINFUL SITUATION, YOU HAVE TO CHANGE, NO MATTER WHAT, YOU KNOW?

YOU CHANGE YOUR ACTIONS IN ORDER TO RESOLVE THE SITUATION, OR MAYBE A SOLUTION DOESN'T WORK, SO YOU HAVE TO CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK.
AND I THINK, IF YOU HAVE A BUNCH OF THOSE SITUATIONS PILED UP, MAYBE THAT'S HOW YOU LEVEL UP AS A PERSON
IN OTHER WORDS, WHAT I'M REALLY TRYING TO SAY IS,
KANAME-CHAN, I KNOW YOU'RE IN PAIN AND STRUGGLING,
BUT IT'S DEFINITELY NOT USELESS, AND I'LL DEFINITELY HELP YOU LATER!
KA-TAK
KA-TAK
THIS WEEK WAS THE MOST PAINFUL WEEK OF MY LIFE
BUT I HAVE A FEELING THAT WHEN I BECOME AN ADULT AND LOOK BACK, THIS WILL PROBABLY BE MY MOST PRECIOUS MEMORY

EVEN THOUGH I WANTED TO BE SOMEONE ELSE SO MANY TIMES
BUT IF THAT'S SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T HAVE YOU,
THEN I'D RATHER STAY AS ME
THANK YOU FOR BEING WITH ME
HAHA...

WHY ARE YOU CRYING?
KANAME-CHAN YOU
YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW PRECIOUS YOU ARE TO ME
NO IDEA HOW MUCH YOU JUST SAVED ME WITH THOSE WORDS
The eastern sky lit up.

From afar,
the sun began
to rise.

As if to smile
at us who had
not become
adults yet

END

when I think of you

Thank you very much for taking this book into your hands

Komatsu

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Then, I Think of You	Canna Vol 35 (April 2014)
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